



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Technology Center 2100

In re

U.S. Application of:

Sumiyo TANAKA

For:

IMAGE SEARCHING SYSTEM, IMAGE
SEARCHING METHOD AND RECORDING
MEDIUM STORING AN IMAGE SEARCHING
PROGRAM

Prior Application:

U.S. Serial No.: 09/255,352

Filed: February 23, 1999

Confirmation No.: 8382

Group Art Unit: 2177

Examiner: Mohammad Ali

BOX CPA

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO.: EL 794574764 US
DATE OF DEPOSIT: AUGUST 12, 2002
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"
service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is
addressed to BOX CPA, Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dwayne C. Norton

Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee


Signature

August 12, 2002

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

**REQUEST FOR FILING CONTINUED PROSECUTION
APPLICATION (CPA) PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)**

This is a request for filing a Continuation Application under 37 C.F.R.
§ 1.53(d), (continued prosecution application (CPA)), of Application Serial No.
09/255,352, filed on February 23, 1999, by Sumiyo TANAKA, entitled IMAGE

08/14/2002 SSITHIB1 00000031 181260 09255352

01 FC:131 740.00 CH
02 FC:102 672.00 CH
03 FC:103 234.00 CH

SEARCHING SYSTEM, IMAGE SEARCHING METHOD AND RECORDING
MEDIUM STORING AN IMAGE SEARCHING PROGRAM.

1. The above-identified prior Application Serial No. 09/255,352, in which no payment of the issue fee, abandonment of, or termination of proceedings has occurred, is hereby expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this new application.

2. Please use the file jacket and contents of the prior Application Serial No. 09/255,352, including the specification, drawings, and declaration to constitute the new application.

3. Please enter the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently herewith.

4. Claims 1-33 are now present in this application. Claims 1, 4, 7, 11, 14, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, and 32 are independent claims, and claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8-10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18-20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28-30, and 33 are dependent claims.

5. The filing fee is calculated on the basis of the claims existing after entry of the preliminary Amendment.

			Fee for small entity			Fee for other than small entity	
Fee	No. filed	No. extra*	Rate	Fee	OR	Rate	Fee
Basic fee				\$370	OR		\$ 740
Total claims	33-20=	13	X \$9=	\$0	OR	X \$18=	\$ 234
Independent claims	11-3=	8	X \$42=	\$0	OR	X \$84=	\$ 672
Multiple Dependent Claim Presented	0	0	+\$140=	\$0	OR	+\$280=	\$-0-
			Total	\$0	OR	Total	\$1646

*If the difference in Column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in Column 2.

6. Please charge the amount of \$1,646.00 (\$740.00 for the filing fee and \$906.00 for the excess claims fee) to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please charge any additional fees (other than issue fee) required during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No.

18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed herewith.

7. A Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time, extending the response period to August 12, 2002, is being filed concurrently herewith. The Petition includes authorization for charging the Petition fee against Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

8. The prior Application Serial No. 09/255,352, filed on February 23, 1999, is assigned of record by virtue of an Assignment by Sumiyo TANAKA to MINOLTA CO., LTD., as recorded on **Reel 9787, Frame 0975**.

9. The Power of Attorney in the prior application Serial No. 09/255,352, was filed by Sumiyo TANAKA, and is to certain attorneys of SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP, Dallas, Texas. On or about May 3, 2001, the power of attorney was changed to the practitioners associated with Customer No. 24367 and the correspondence address was changed to that associated with Customer No. 24367. Please submit all correspondence to the Dallas address associated with Customer No. 24367.

Customer Number: 24367



24367

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

Thomas N. Tarnay
at (214) 981-3388
Atty. Docket No.: **15162/00200**

It is understood that secrecy under 35 U.S.C. § 122 is hereby waived to the extent that if information or access is available to the application in the file wrapper of a 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) application, be it either this application or a prior application in the same file wrapper, the Patent and Trademark Office may provide similar information or

access to all the other applications in the same file wrapper.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____

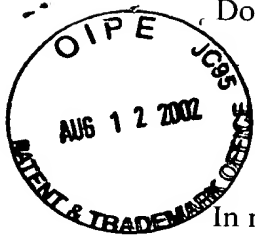


Thomas N. Tarnay
Registration No. 41,341
Attorney for Applicant

TNT:DAS:pm

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August 12, 2002



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#14B
8/16/02
A.W.

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Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The following is a Preliminary Amendment, which is being submitted concurrently with the filing of a Continued Prosecution Application.

The Continued Prosecution Application is filed in response to the Office Action dated February 12, 2002 which provides for a response period ending May 12, 2002.

A Petition for Extension of Time, to extend the response period for the Office Action, dated February 12, 2002, for three (3) additional months to August 12, 2002, is being filed concurrently.

Amendments to the claims are presented herein by presenting a complete set of pending claims, as amended, in clean form. Also, an Appendix entitled "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made," showing the current amendments to the claims is attached hereto.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the previous version of the claims with the following clean version, wherein claims 1, 4, 7, 11, 14, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, and 32 incorporate new amendments thereto.